

Residents' Magazine

Tuath Goes Green

As a nation we are becoming increasingly aware of the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss. In this edition Tuath Housing and residents are making changes to play our part for the well-being of future generations. Collectively and as individuals we can make a difference.

You said, we did!

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WELCOME

A MESSAGE FROM KATE JOYCE HEAD OF SUSTAINABILITY & STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Welcome to the Spring/Summer edition of our Resident Magazine 2023, and in particular to all our new residents! I am also new to Tuath, having recently joined the organisation as Head of Sustainability and Strategic Projects.

People often ask what does 'sustainability' mean? In simple terms, it is ensuring that we fulfil the needs of our lives without compromising the needs of future generations. For Tuath this means ensuring that we maintain a balance between growing the organisation and the number of properties we provide, with caring for our environment and ensuring social well-being. Therefore, my role in Tuath is focused on managing a sustainability strategy across all areas of our business.

We are all becoming increasingly aware of the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss. Sometimes the scale of the challenge can feel enormous. However, there is a lot that we can all be doing - collectively and as individuals. In fact, Tuath (and our residents) are doing a lot in this area already and we intend to increase the focus on environmental and sustainable initiatives over the next few years. We have recently updated our tenant handbook with improved messaging around recycling, energy and water management. All our new residents will receive recycling flyers (to stick to their fridges!) in their welcome packs, and we regularly host biodiversity and planting projects at different schemes.



Throughout 2023, we intend to build on what we have already been doing and will be running several 'green' projects through our Tenant Engagement Teams. We encourage you to take part!

As an organisation, we are also looking at the energy efficiency and environmental impact of the homes we provide; and where suitable, we are exploring innovative technological solutions to reduce the amount of carbon our houses are emitting into the atmosphere. We are also introducing better work practices in our offices to minimise our impact on the environment.

I hope that you enjoy this edition of the magazine and that the articles and content show the importance Tuath places on climate change, the environment and the well-being of future generations. Wishing you all the very best, Kate

Kate Joyce

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Following your feedback and to support the environment we are distributing this edition of the magazine in digital format. All issues of the Residents' Magazine can be viewed at www.tuathhousing.ie on the Tuath Community menu

Residents taking part in a communal garden project in Knightsbridge Village, Trim, Co Meath

TENANT SATISFACTION RESULTS FULL YEAR - 2022

Tuath has engaged with an impartial third party to capture the satisfaction level of residents under the service provision of Tuath. Tuath has implemented a quarterly tenant satisfaction survey which seeks to identify satisfaction levels associated to your home, your neighbourhood, Tuath's repairs service, communications, and tenant engagement. Below are the tenant satisfaction results for the full year.



DOING WELL BY DOING GOOD, MEET TUATH'S NEW GREEN TEAM



Tuath Housing is committed to delivering a more sustainable future for our staff and our residents. As an organisation, we know that we can improve our environmental impact and that in doing so, we will help deliver better results to our staff, our residents, and the wider community.

In January 2023, Tuath launched a Green Team which is a staff-led group focused on being champions for green initiatives across all areas of Tuath - from our head office to the homes of our residents. We aim to educate, encourage and raise awareness!

The Green Team has representatives from all areas of Tuath's operations to ensure that all areas of the business are considered. This includes New Business and Development, Finance, Corporate Services, Property Services and Housing. We hope that the actions of the Green Team will have wide reaching impacts as staff bring their sustainability knowledge home to friends and families, as well as the potential for Tuath to have a significant impact on communities through engagement with our residents.

If you have any ideas or suggestions of how Tuath can help to support a more sustainable community for you or your family, please contact your Housing Coordinator.

EMBEDDING A CULTURE OF TENANT ENGAGEMENT 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

It's been one year since Tuath launched our sector leading research on Embedding a Culture of Tenant Engagement. The aim of this research was to use evidence from good practice in the social housing sector in the UK and Europe and make recommendations for tenant engagement for Approved Housing Bodies in Ireland.

This research has helped to shape and influence tenancy engagement at Tuath and in the last year:

- We launched the Tenant Engagement Strategy 2022-2025.
- A new Residents' Group Handbook was launched with the aim of supporting residents' groups to embed community engagement in their estate.
- A new online "Pre-Move in" animated information video was developed. The video was created in consultation with Tuath residents from the Tuath National Tenant Forum.
- We sought feedback from tenants to improve our annual home inspection process. Consultation took place via online sessions and was attended by over 163 tenants. 83% of those surveyed were very satisfied with the amended process.
- Customer Service Workshops and 'You said, We did' feedback sessions with residents to influence service changes.

Tuath will continue to focus on 7 pillars in the tenant engagement strategy - Involve, Enable, Communicate, Build, Integrate, Embed, and Empower to create a holistic approach that prioritises residents needs and fosters a positive and supportive community.

YOU SAID, WE DID!

FEEDBACK! CUSTOMER SERVICE FEEDBACK SESSION

As part of excellent customer service and tenancy engagement with Tuath residents' regular feedback is sought. Recently, all Tuath residents were invited to take part in a survey on Tuath's Customer Service, and to review the Residents' Handbook. An online feedback session for residents on Customer Service at Tuath Housing was held on Zoom on Tuesday 21st of February. Most of the participants in this survey had read the Customer Communication Policy and had found it easy to read.

They were an engaged group, with the majority of the group having contacted Tuath Housing in the last 6 months. Two-thirds of residents gave positive feedback in some way about how their query had been dealt with. Many thanks to all the residents who gave their feedback for this session. Recommendations and additional information gathered from this session are currently being updated in the Tenant Handbook. The new edition will be made available soon!



RENTS FEEDBACK SESSION

Tuath recently launched its first-ever online Annual Rent Review Process. The launch took place on March 6, 2023, through an online webinar attended by 50 people. The event was hosted by Tuath's rent manager Mary Roe and Aine Murray Tuath's Senior Rent Co Ordinator who demonstrated the new system and its features.

This new online rent review process is a significant step forward for Tuath as it will streamline the annual rent review process for tenants, making it more efficient and transparent. The new system will allow tenants to view their rent account online and to complete the annual review process online, eliminating the need for paper-based forms and reducing the administrative burden on both tenants and Tuath staff.

The webinar was an excellent opportunity for Tuath to showcase its commitment to providing innovative and efficient services to its residents.

It was also an opportunity for residents to learn about the benefits of the new system and how to use it effectively.

Tuath are delighted to launch our first-ever online rent review process. This is a significant step forward for Tuath, and we are confident that it will make the rent review process more accessible and convenient for our residents. We are committed to providing the best possible services to our residents, and this new system is just one example of how we are working to achieve that goal.

Overall, the launch of Tuath's online Annual Rent Review Process is a significant development in the social housing sector. It demonstrates Tuath's commitment to innovation and customer service, and it will undoubtedly improve the rent review process for residents.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR REPAIRS PANEL MEMBERS

Would you like an opportunity to contribute to the improvement of the quality of repairs and maintenance services in your home?

At Tuath Housing we believe it is important to have a say in the service provided in your home, especially when it comes to repairs. It ensures that your living conditions are safe and comfortable, and that any necessary repairs are carried out quickly and effectively. Expressing your interest in the repairs panel can give you a voice in the decision-making process and help improve the quality of service provided in your home. If you are interested in joining a panel that focus on your repairs and maintenance in your home, please click on <https://rb.gy/tniy5> to add your information. We would like to hear from you, your voice matters!

GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

WELCOME TO THE REDISCOVERY CENTRE!

The Rediscovery Centre is the National Centre for the Circular Economy in Ireland, and it is located in the unique demonstration eco-facility in Ballymun.

What is the circular economy? In simple terms, it's just common sense. Currently we make items, consume them and then throw them away. In the circular economy model, we make items, consume them and then reuse them. The Rediscovery Centre brings the circular economy to life through their social enterprises, their building and their education and research programmes.

The Rediscovery Centre is housed in the old boiler house in Ballymun and it has lots to see and experience. Once you arrive at the Centre you will be able to browse their Eco Store, a café, and look through the portholes at their four social enterprises that include Rediscover Furniture, Rediscover Fashion, Rediscover Paint and Rediscover Cycling.

In their Eco Store they stock good quality inexpensive paint that has been remixed and it is perfect for your next DIY project. The team in Rediscover Paint take excess paint from recycling centres and bring it back to the Rediscovery Centre to be remixed.

The paint retails at €10 for 5.6 litre pot of paint and €13 for bespoke mixed 5.6 litre pot of paint.

The Rediscovery Centre has a thriving furniture restoration, repair, and upcycling workshop in Rediscover Furniture.

They work with a range of furniture and they restore and upcycle these pieces into unique and beautiful items. In their next workshop, the Rediscover Fashion team take textiles, upcycle them into new and unique pieces. The items are then sold in their Eco Store and reinvested into the social enterprises.

The Rediscover Cycling team spend their days upcycling bikes retrieved from recycling centres. Their trainee and bike mechanics work on these bikes and bring them back to life and back on the road. These refurbished bikes are then sold in their Eco Store for a fraction of their original price.



Grainne Lambert



The Rediscovery Centre run a range of public workshops that focus on skill building and sustainability. You can view the latest list of course [rediscoverycentre.ie/events](https://www.rediscoverycentre.ie/events)

TOP TIPS!

Furniture:

There is a wealth of good quality preloved furniture to be discovered. Places like adverts.ie, donedeal.ie, charity shops or Facebook marketplace are great places to find hidden gems.



Don't be afraid to give furniture a gentle wash. It's amazing what a good clean will do to revive a piece of furniture.

Paint can transform an old piece of furniture and you can create a piece that is unique to your home. Good preparation (sanding and priming) is key to a good finish and then paint with light layers to create a professional finish.

Textiles:

Repair is your friend. There are lots of tutorials online that will help you learn basic repair skills that will keep your clothing in use for longer.

Do you have a t-shirt that you no longer wear but don't want to part with? Then consider making t-shirt yarn and making yourself a hat with it.

In your local community or workplace create a swap zone



where people can come along and bring an item and take an item. Lots of new books and clothes to be discovered.

Feel free to visit our store <https://goo.gl/maps/hJPmaerGxZ28z538> or book a guided tour with an expert guide. We are always happy to chat and give advice in relation to your queries!

YOUR COMMUNITY

PLACEMAKING AWARD 2023

On Thursday 9th April, Tuath Housing were honoured to win the 'Placemaking Initiative of the Year' Award at The National Property Awards 2023, for the restoration of Ellis Court on Benburb Street in Dublin. This redevelopment involved many partners working together to restore a piece of Dublin's cultural and historical landscape, which now provides 22 new homes, bringing affordable, residential living back into the city for individuals and families.



Preserving and restoring historic landmarks is not only important for maintaining a connection to our past but also for creating a sense of community and identity.

Additionally, providing affordable housing is crucial for addressing the housing crisis and ensuring that everyone has access to a safe and comfortable place to call home.

Ellis Court complex was once part of one of Ireland's first ever social housing schemes built in the 1880's. We would like to thank Dublin City Council, who were instrumental in bringing this historic project to fruition, and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for their backing and support. Thank you also to the design team and all stakeholders involved for their diligent work and partnership throughout the development.

Once again, congratulations to all those involved in the restoration of Ellis Court and for receiving the 'Placemaking Initiative of the Year' award at The National Property Awards 2023.

NEW HORIZONS BURSARY EDUCATION 2023

Tuath Housing is launching for the first time in 2023 the "New Horizons" Education Bursary in education, the meaning of "New Horizons" is used to encourage residents to step outside of their comfort zones, explore new topics and ideas, and pursue new skills and knowledge. It highlights the idea that learning is a lifelong process, and that there is always more to discover and explore.



The funding provided through Tuath's New Horizons Education Bursary can help residents to take part in accredited or non-accredited courses, short or long-term. Funding provided can vary from €250 to €1000. You must be over 18 and proof of course registration must be provided when applying.

Participating in the New Horizons Education Bursary can have a range of benefits, including boosting your confidence and social skills, meeting new people, and improving your employability skills. Learning new skills and knowledge can also lead to personal growth and development, as well as new opportunities for career advancement.

Participating in education and training can lead to different ways of thinking, which can broaden your horizons and make you more adaptable in today's fast-paced and ever-changing job market.

Tuath are pleased as part of our Tenant engagement Strategy 2022-2025 to be able to support and invest in the education and development of their residents. Programs like "New Horizons" can have a positive impact on individuals and the community as a whole. It's definitely worth considering for those who are looking to improve their lives and achieve their goals. To avoid disappointment be sure to review the application guidelines on Tuath Housing website to determine if you are eligible to apply for the Education Bursary.

The bursary will be open on Monday 26th June. If you would like to apply, please click on the link <https://shorturl.at/knpt3> to the **application form**.

Any queries in relation to the application for the New Horizons Education Bursary please email newhorizons@tuathhousing.ie or see our website tuathhousing.ie/tuath-education-bursary/

YOUR COMMUNITY CONTINUED

RESIDENTS COMMUNAL GARDEN PROJECT IN CARRICK ON SUIR, CO. TIPPERARY



Before



After

In November 2022 residents moved into a newly constructed A Rated apartments in Kickham Street, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary. During a pre-move in coffee morning our housing and tenant engagement teams spoke to residents about how they would like to get involved in tenant engagement projects once settled into their new homes. Many residents spoke about their keen interest in gardening, which inspired our staff to start work on a resident-led communal garden project. Funding for the garden project and was secured through JSF Construction and the Tuath Housing Community Fund 2022.

In March 2023 the design and consultation process began with residents, staff and a horticulturist from a local garden centre in Clonmel. The theme for the garden is biodiversity with a focus on planting that will encourage birds, bees and butterflies to create a natural eco system. It was important as part of the design consultation process that the garden was accessible for residents with planting focused around raised beds and easy to access planters.

On a sunny day in April staff from Tuaths Galway office, Tuaths Green team staff, Kickham Street residents and our advisor from the garden centre set to work on putting the garden design into place. Fruit trees, vegetables, and herbs formed a large part of the design. We would like to thank residents for the great work done and look forward to the unveiling of the garden at an event later in the Summer!



YOUR COMMUNITY CONTINUED

LOTTERY FUNDED PROJECT THROUGH THE HSE NATIONAL LOTTERY PROGRAMME

PRIOR HALL APARTMENTS, DUBLIN 8 "COLOUR TO THE COURTYARD"

The aim of "Colour to the Courtyard" was to integrate communities by designing a mural for the private shared courtyard and creating fairy garden homes around the trees in the complex for the children. A local Further Education College – Liberties College in Dublin 8, Art and Social Care students collaborated with Tuath Housing in designing the project. The students from the Social Care project took part as their community educational project and the 3rd year Art students participated too. Resident's and children participated in the project. Thanks to the National Lottery Funding of €1324.64 "Colour in the Courtyard" project was completed and looks fantastic and is abundance with colour and creativity, as you can see from the before and after pictures!



Before



After

TUATH COMMUNITY FUND NOW LAUNCHED!

Tuath Housing are delighted to announce the launch of our 2023 Tuath Community Fund. Supporting local communities through funding can have a significant impact on the well-being and overall quality of life for the people living there. By investing in local services and resources, organisations like Tuath Housing Community Funds can help to strengthen community bonds, promote togetherness, and build more sustainable communities.



If you are part of Residents' Group/ Association or are aware of a registered community group/organisation that offers support in your local neighbourhood, please make them aware of this funding!! Applications can be made for €250 or up to €1,000. If you are interested in making an application and have any questions relating to Tuath Community Fund, please contact Tenant Engagement with your query via email tuathcommunityfund@tuathhousing.ie Please leave your mobile/landline number should you require a call back.

ONLINE PARENTING SUPPORTS

Online parenting support has been made available by Tuath Housing on a bimonthly basis. Online workshops have been offered which included advice on child anxiety and online gaming safety. We hope that by providing support for residents, they will be better equipped to navigate the parenting path, which is both incredibly rewarding and occasionally challenging. The following excerpt about the advantages of parenting programs comes from Dominic Weston, Deputy Head of Training (UK), Training and Program Consultant, Triple P UK and Ireland he highlights.

"Being a parent can be the greatest thing in the world. The joy of hearing your child speak for the first time, watching them take their first steps or stand on stage at the school nativity play. It's not always easy though. As children develop, they start to ask for things we might not want them to have or be able to give them.

They will probably argue and fight with brothers, sisters or friends. They might not always do what we want them to or what we ask them to do.

Managing these situations is often what most parents say is one of the hardest parts of bringing up children. If only there were some really straightforward ideas that parents could try that would make the job easier and less stressful. The good news is that there are! Triple P provides tried and tested ideas that millions of parents around the world have found helpful – in both dealing with those difficult times, as well as making family life more enjoyable.

You are the expert in your family. Triple P just provides a bit of extra support".

Dominic Weston

Deputy Head of Training (UK) and Programme Consultant at Triple P UK and Ireland

YOUR COMMUNITY CONTINUED

AN GARRÁN RESIDENTS' GROUP CELEBRATED AT MAYORAL RECEPTION



In March, residents of An Garrán, Tramore were hosted by Mayor of Waterford City and County Council, Cllr. John O'Leary, at a special reception to commend the groups work in their community. The reception was held to celebrate the Residents' group being named as runner-up at the All-Island IPB Pride of Place awards in January. The Association was nominated by Waterford City and County Council, in the Urban Neighbourhood (Under 3,000) category. The national 'Pride of Place Awards' awards, celebrate the best in community development, and recognise the efforts of people in

making their local neighbourhoods better places to live, work and socialise.

The residents' group was set up through Tuaths Tenant Engagement programme, since then there have been several environmental awareness projects such as Tree Planting, Clean Up Days, Daffodil planting, National Planting Month, Pollinator Projects, meet and greet days and fun events. The residents' association, Waterford City and County Council and Tuath Housing have also created a very positive link with the Community Gardaí for support.

The estate consists of residents from Europe, Ghana, Russia, Ireland, South Africa, Scotland, England, and Canadian French empowering a great community and celebrates cultural diversity. One of the most significant ventures to have taken place last year by the residents was a European Neighbour's Day event which celebrated with a fun day, barbecue and a celebration of local national boxing champion Dylan Rocket. We would like to congratulate the residents' committee and residents for their involvement in creating a wonderful pride of place in An Garrán.

TUATH RESIDENTS AND STAFF CELEBRATE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURS' DAY 2023

European Neighbours' Day is celebrated on May 26th and is an excellent opportunity for communities to come together and strengthen their relationships with one another. Tuath Housing celebrate this day with their residents in various developments across the country. It is a fantastic way to promote social inclusion and create a sense of belonging for everyone involved. By organising events and activities that encourage interaction and communication among neighbours, Tuath can help foster a more inclusive and supportive environment for their residents. This year a host of events were held around the country, a self-care morning for residents in the Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre. A session on mindfulness was facilitated by a local teacher followed by tea, coffee, and some nice treats. Also, everyone in attendance was given a small self-care pack to bring home with them. In Cork there was an Afternoon Tea event in The Blue Cube community centre in Goolds Hill, Mallow, Co. Cork with Ice cream for children. In Knightsbridge in Trim, Co. Meath a planting day was held with residents from the Garden Club. Throughout the planting day, residents engaged in various activities, such as planting flowers, herbs, and vegetables in the communal gardens. They shared gardening tips, and worked collaboratively to create a vibrant and thriving environment where they live. Tuath staff supported residents and joined in the fun! In Kildare an event in Oakpark, Naas invited residents to cook a traditional dish to share with neighbours and share stories & experiences about your country. There was also face painting and treats on the day. For all the full stories on these events please see our website www.tuathhousing.ie.



YOUR COMMUNITY CONTINUED

GREEN TEAM SPOTLIGHT!

Tuath Green team member Ingrid tells us what it's like to be a Clean Coasts Volunteer and what is the 'Think Before You Flush' Campaign



Ingrid, a member of Tuath's Development team in the Galway office and a member of Tuath's Green team spoke to us about her role as a Clean coasts volunteer, what the Dirty Dozen campaign is and what we can do in our homes to eliminate coastal sewage related litter.

How did you get started as a Clean Coasts Volunteer?

Growing up and living in Galway City and being surrounded by the sea, rivers, lakes, mountainous terrains and all the marvels of nature that accompany those treasures, has been both a blessing and a privilege. One day, while out walking, I noticed a group of people cleaning up a small local beach and I could not help but notice the many refuse bags they had filled with litter and so I asked what kind of litter was in the bags and if I could help in any way?

To my utter shock, the bags were mostly filled with hundreds of wet wipes which had become embedded in the seaweed and along with other single-use plastic litter, glass bottles and cans, had polluted the whole shoreline. It was there and then, almost 5 years ago, I decided to join the 'Claddagh Beach Volunteer Group' and educate myself on marine pollution and try to play my part in protecting the environment and the numerous wildlife habitats at that beach through regular clean-ups, awareness raising and working together with relevant organisations and authorities.

What is sewage related litter/microplastics?

Approximately 90% of wet wipes contain plastic and when flushed into the sewage system, the plastic in them breaks down into 'microplastics', tiny fragments of plastic which are washing into our rivers and seas and in turn are being eaten by marine wildlife and killing them.

Microplastics are also entering into our food chain through the seafood that we eat thereby creating a potential human health hazard. In 2022, the United Nations stated that "...at current rates, by 2050 there will be more plastic in the Ocean than fish", a truly scary thought! The statistics further indicate that 80% of pollution in our oceans comes from land-based sources i.e., human sources.

What can we do to make a difference?

I believe that if every person could just make one small commitment today, be it to reducing or ideally eliminating the use of "disposable" plastic items such as wet-wipes, joining or even starting a beach/river-clean-up group or by creating awareness about the plastic pollution crisis' impact on our marine environment, or highlighting the many simple actions that people can take to combat that pollution.

How can we stop sewage related litter?

Clean Coasts and Uisce Éireann's (Irish Water) "Think Before You Flush?" awareness campaign, highlights a list of the twelve most common items (The Dirty Dozen), that people flush down the toilet in error including wipes, cotton buds, dental floss, hair, and cotton buds. By making small changes in our own lives, perhaps we may be able to inspire others to follow suit and help tackle one of the most pressing environmental issues of our times.

What should we flush down the toilet?

Only flush the 3P's, pee, poo, and paper (toilet paper that is). Everything else must go into the bin, even if a product is marketed as flushable. By putting a bin in the bathroom, you can help everyone Think Before You Flush.

For more information on the 'Think Before You Flush' campaign please see the flyer on this page or go to www.thinkbeforeyouflush.org



YOUR HOME

FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY 2023

Following on from 2022, we have completed 120 energy upgrades bringing our overall total of upgrades to 216. Our programme for 2023 is to complete in the region of 180 properties. We have completed 12 energy upgrades in the Munster region in the first quarter of 2023 with a further 20 ongoing in Balbriggan, Co. Dublin. As part of the upgrade works, we aim to achieve a minimum of a B2 BER rating. We are also installing more PV panels to our upgrades allowing for better BER ratings and reduced energy bills for residents. As part of the energy upgrade programme, we have progressed our energy research. This involves installing data loggers pre-upgrade and analysing the data following works. Data loggers provide statistics and feedback regarding cost savings, useability of the new system and comfort levels. We are in the process of installing 60 data loggers in Dublin, these homes will also receive an energy upgrade. To date we have reduced our carbon footprint and energy costs by approximately 61% across all upgraded properties. This is the equivalent savings of approximately 645 tonnes of carbon per m2 per year or the equivalent of planting approximately 45,000 trees per year.

CONDENSATION, DAMP & MOULD

Condensation is a common cause of dampness in buildings, particularly in rooms that produce a lot of moisture, such as bathrooms and kitchens. When warm, moist air comes into contact with a cooler surface, it can lead to condensation, which can eventually cause dampness and mould. This can lead to a growth in mould that appears as a cloud of little black dots. It's important to address any mould growth in your home or workplace as soon as possible, as exposure to mould can cause health problems for some people, especially those with allergies or respiratory issues.



Please see below how to reduce condensation at home;

- 1 Produce less moisture:**
 Simple things make a huge difference, like keeping the lids on pans when cooking and drying clothes outdoors (and especially not on radiators)
- 2 Let the moist air out and the fresh air in:**
 Extractor fans are an effective way to get rid of moist air and steam so that less condensation forms. Meanwhile, let fresh air circulate to avoid mould forming where the air is still.
- 3 Make sure there is a gap between your furniture and the walls** and give wardrobes and cupboards a good airing sometimes.
- 4 Insulate and draught-proof your home:**
 Warm homes suffer less from condensation, so you should make sure your house is well insulated.
- 5 Windows and external doors should be draught-proofed,** and you should consider secondary glazing if your windows are draughty.
- 6 Heat your home a little more:**
 While you don't want to waste money heating rooms you don't use, very cold rooms are more likely to get damp and mould. Set the thermostatic radiator in unused rooms so the radiator gives out a little bit of heat whenever you have the heating on.

 Remember, unused rooms will need airing from time to time!

TENANT ENGAGEMENT

Our tenant engagement team provides a variety of initiatives, projects, and activities to support and build stronger communities where Tuath residents live. We also work with partners in the community who can assist residents to access advice, training, and support that they may need. If you would like to get involved or to find out more information on tenant engagement, please email getinvolved@tuathhousing.ie or call your local Tuath Housing office.

EASTER EVENTS ALL REGIONS

Tuath Housing residents and staff from all over the various Tuath developments had a great time celebrating Easter with the Easter Bunny. It's heart-warming to see children enjoying games and an egg hunt with the Easter Bunny!

It's always great to see children having fun and enjoying traditional activities like egg hunts and old-time games. Egg hunts, in particular, are a beloved tradition during Easter, old-time games like tug of war and sack race can be a great way for children to get active and engage in friendly competition. Not only are these activities entertaining, but they can also help children develop important skills like teamwork, friendly competition and creativity.

It's also lovely to see that the older people from our age friendly communities were part of the festivities. Hosting afternoon teas and in-house hair cutting appointments are fantastic ways to celebrate Easter while keeping everyone safe and comfortable.

It's always important to take care of our elderly and make sure they feel included in all celebrations, so it's great that they received Easter eggs and treats from their Housing Service Coordinators.

We would like to thank the local organizations, including the Garda, Fire Brigade, and local Community Partnerships, who were involved in the festivities. A sense of community spirit and collaboration is essential for building and maintaining strong, supportive communities. When people work together towards a common goal, they can achieve much more than they could on their own. The photos from all the Tuath various schemes tell the story!

Easter 2023 was a joyful and festive time for Tuath residents, young and old alike.



Gort Fionnbarra, Navan, Co Meath

RESIDENTS AND STAFF ALL AROUND TUATH SCHEMES ENJOYING PLAYING SOME OLD TRADITIONAL GAMES!



Thornwood, Beaumont, Dublin 9



Woodside, Stepside, Co. Dublin



Mount Eagle Square, Sandyford, Dublin 18



Borris Meadows, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



Corrig Glen, Portarlington, Co Laois



Hampton Wood, Finglas, Dublin 9



Homestead Court, Quarry Rd, Cabra East, Dublin 7

OUR OLDER PERSONS ENJOY EASTER, RECEIVING EASTER EGGS, HAVING THEIR HAIRCUT AND ENJOYING AFTERNOON TEA!



Residents in Clonmullion, Athy, Co Kildare have their hair cut and enjoy Easter treats with Anita their Housing Office.



Housing Officer Noemi visits her residents in Kilminchy Retirement Village with Easter eggs and self-care packs.



Our residents in Raleigh Court, Crumlin, enjoy arts and crafts workshop with Housing Scheme Manager Miriam followed by afternoon tea.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES WHO ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO JOIN US IN OUR FESTIVITIES



Community Garda Sinead from Enniscorthy, Forgelands receives an Easter egg from the Easter Bunny!



Garda all set to give the children in Downshire Place their Easter Eggs.



Enniscorthy Fire Service join in the Easter festivities in Forgelands.

RESIDENTS ENJOY TRIP TO THE MOVIES IN CORK!

Residents from Blarney, Bishops Avenue and Croppy Boy Co. Cork enjoyed an Easter tenant engagement event at the cinema. It was a little wet over the Easter break with some outdoor events postponed until the weather gets a little better. Thank you to everyone who came along. It was lovely to meet with Tuath residents from different schemes in the Cork area. We hope everyone enjoyed the day and look forward to holding many more events soon!



AN RADHARC RESIDENTS' GROUP RECEIVE TUATHS COMMUNITY CLEAN UP KIT

We are pleased to support residents' groups set up under the Tuath Tenant Engagement Programme. One of the many ways we assist committees is by providing supplies to enable Community clean up days. An Radharc residents' group recently received their



community kit and are looking forward to holding a cleanup day soon. If you would like to find out how to hold a clean-up day in your scheme, please contact your Housing Coordinator or email getinvolved@tuathhousing.ie

TENANT ENGAGEMENT CONTINUED

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY – DYLAN'S STORY

As part of our Tuath Community Fund 2022 a haircut initiative got on the way in Clonmullion we were lucky to get a chance to meet Dylan, one of our Tuath residents through Lillian our in-house barber/hairdresser. Dylan declared he is a person with Autism, he explained that he gets very overwhelmed and anxious about getting his hair cut. Lillian was able to accommodate his specific needs and make him feel comfortable during his haircut.

As part of our Tenant Engagement Strategy, we like to support underrepresented groups such as people with Autism. Dylan's story inspired a national campaign by Tuath for World Autism Day offering

residents with sensory issues free haircuts with a Sensory Barber/Hairdresser. This was a great opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges that people with autism may face in everyday activities, including getting hair cut.

Maggie from The Gents Barbers in Inchicore, Dublin 8, highlights the importance of providing a safe and welcoming environment for people with autism and other special needs. It's essential for professionals in the hairdressing industry to understand the specific needs of their clients and to adapt their needs accordingly, just as Lillian did for Dylan. This kind of understanding and accommodation can go a long way towards creating

positive and inclusive experience for all. Residents from various Tuath developments availed of this initiative and are delighted to be making a visit to their local sensory barbers/hairdressers. See video on this link <https://rb.gy/p3pp5>



STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD



Tuath Housing "Stand out from the Crowd" employment and training initiative is back again in 2023! Presented in 2021 during Covid-19, this idea was a huge success. Professional groups like CARR Communications, Dress For Success, Grow Remote and Empower provided residents with

their expert advice to assist them in finding employment and introduce residents to resources to aid in exploring of a new career and educational prospects.

The "Stand out from the Crowd" was a tremendous success, it helped residents acquire confidence and find resources in the tough job market. Again, this year will include a series of three free online webinars yet to be confirmed. The major objectives of the program are to remove obstacles to employment, assist residents in creating their Curriculum Vitae's, provide guidance on how to prepare for interviews and choose acceptable dress code for interviews.

We anticipate that the course will be offered online and start in September 2023. For information on how to register, keep an eye on our Social Media pages and Monthly Bulletins.

NEW TENANCY MOVE-IN PACKS



We are excited to give new Tuath residents this lovely welcome pack along with the keys to their forever homes. The pack was created as part of Tuath's Tenant Engagement Strategy 2022-2025 and are one

of the ways we want to connect with residents from the beginning of their tenancy. The pack includes a welcome card and useful contact information for Tuath as well as tips on recycling and sunflower seeds to make homes more sustainable. Wishing all the best to residents moving into a new home, we hope you will enjoy a nice cup of tea while you are settling in!



TENANT ENGAGEMENT MAILING LIST

If you would like to receive our tenant engagement monthly email bulletin, please email getinvolved@tuathhousing.ie to join our mailing list.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES



Hamilton Gardens, Cabra, Dublin

Through the Social lease Management framework, we continue to manage homes on behalf of the Local Authorities. Hamilton Gardens is a residential-led masterplan for a community of 485 new homes in Cabra, of which Tuath are managing 89. The buildings are constructed of pre-cast concrete systems, with all elevations to a brick finish. The use of Air Source Heat Pumps and a Combined Heat and Power System ensures an energy-efficient development and enhances the rental experience for all tenants.



Park West, Office to Residential Conversion

In November, Tuath Housing, in partnership with Dublin City council, delivered 86 social homes at the Plaza building in Park West business park, one of Ireland's largest office to residential conversion project. The former office block, which lay vacant for over 20 years, underwent a major redevelopment which included the conversion of two four-storey office blocks into a five-storey development. The office complex is now home to more than 200 people from the Dublin City Council housing waiting list.



Milestream, Shanakiel, Cork

This brand-new stand-alone development sits on the hilly North side of Cork City in Shanakiel. Located only 15 minutes from the City Centre, Milestream contains 42 A-rated homes and represents the ongoing collaboration between Tuath and Cork City Council, particularly in the North West Quarter of the city where there has been significant regeneration works taking place in the area. This development consists of 2, 3 & 4 bed homes, funded via CALF funding from the Department of Housing and Housing Finance Agency. This is a modern method of construction build which was constructed via Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF). ICF generally involves light, premade forms that fit together as large interlocking blocks. Benefits over than poured concrete include greater energy efficiency, less prone to moisture intrusion and less sensitive to cold temperatures.



Walker's Gate, Kildare Town, Kildare

Walker's Gate is a development with 40 three-bed homes finished to the highest standard and located in a beautiful setting just a few minutes from Kildare town. The monthly rent for the cost rental homes at Walker's Gate is set at €1,272, 35% below local area average. All homes are A-rated and incorporate sustainable and renewable technology resulting in lower energy costs.



Kickham Street, Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary

Continuing our growth in County Tipperary, this beautiful new development on Kickham St., in the heart of Carrick-on-Suir, consists of 13 one, two and three bed apartments. Following receipt of CAS Stage 4 approval, Tuath entered a Design & Build contract with the developer JSF Construction. The homes at Kickham St. were completed Autumn 2022 and are now allocated to older persons and those with specific disabilities on the Council's waiting list.



Ellis Court, Benburb Street, Dublin

Ellis Court, one of Ireland's first social housing schemes built in the 1880s. The project saw the building undergo major restoration works that have retained most of the structure's historical integrity, while successfully converting it to modern residential accommodation. The approved plans for the refurbishment included the building of a new extension, with the overall development now consisting of 19x apartments (6x one-beds and 13x two-beds) and 3x townhouses (2 x two-beds and 1x three-bed homes). The delivery of the new A-rated energy-efficient homes is the result of a Public Works Contract, which is 100% funded by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage.

RESIDENTS WORKING TOGETHER

Tuath staff and residents enjoy working together doing clean-up days and gardening to upkeep the areas where they live. Our Cork residents enjoying a training session on how to use a Automated External Defibrillator. The residents had an AED installed in their development great to see they are learning new skills!



Defibrillator training in The Meadows, Arus Mhuire and The Boroughs Co Cork



Woodside Clean-up Day



Planting days in Raleigh Court, Crumlin and St Catherines Gate, Drimnagh

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Changing Housing for the Better

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